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JLH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
LANG et al.

Serial No. 09/852,616

Art Unit: 3617

Filed: May 11, 2001

Examiner: A. Vasudeva

For: LOW-DRAG HYDRODYNAMIC SURFACES

RESPONSE

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To the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action dated July 25, 2003,
kindly reconsider and allow all rejected claims for the reasons
as previously stated.

Kindly reconsider and allow claim 145. Claim 145
distinguishes from Wipper, inter alia, by pointing out forming a
gas cavity (singular) and a cavity closure (singular) in a cavity
closure region and providing a series of substantially
symmetrical saw tooth-like shapes on the surface in the cavity
closure region.

In contrast, Wipper has multiple grooves or channels (column
7, line 37) that make multiple cavities. The grooves are tapered
toward collection holes 34 in the center and at the top of the
groove (column 7, line 62) (Figure 3C, Figure 3 right). The
compressed air is collected in slots 102 which extend across the
width of the channels (column 7, line 66) (Figure 3 left).